Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2146

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 777

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY BERN

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, PARM, ICRC, VS, VN

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT SECOND SESSION LOW CONFERENCE

REFS: A) HELSINKI 133; B) STOCKHOLM 346; C) REYKJAVIK 95

- 1. FROM HIGHLY USEFUL REPORT REF A CONFIRMED BY REF C, WE LEARN HIGH-RANKING NORDIC FOREIGN OFFICIALS WILL BE MEETING IN STOCKHOLM ABOUT JANUARY 28. FURTHERMORE, IT APPEARS FROM REFS A AND B THAT AT THIS MEETING SWEDEN MAY WELL BE PROMOTING VIEW THAT THERE ARE TWO EQUAL GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTH VIET NAM PER PARA 5, REF A, AND THAT "PRG" SHOULD BE ADMITTED TO LOW CONFERENCE.
- 2. SWEDISH THESIS IS ALONG SAME LINE AS MADAME BINH'S RECENT CONFIDENTIAL

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LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER GRABER OF SWITZERLAND (FBIS ITEM

BK221727), IN WHICH SHE ATTEMPTED TO PORTRAY GVN AND "PRG" AS TWO EQUAL GOVERNEMTS IN SOTH VIET NAM.

- 3. WE URGE SCANDAVIAN ADDRESSEES TO DISCUSS SWEDISH POSITION ALONG LINES BELOW PRIOR TO MEETING NEXT WEEK IN ORDER TO AT LEAST KEEP NORDIC COUNTRIES IN THE ABSTENTION COLUMN AS LAST YEAR. (PARA 4 THROUGH 8 ARE UNCLASSIFIED AND MAY BE PASSED IN WRITTEN FORM.)
- 4. THE 1954 GENEVA ACCORDS RECOGNIZED TWO GOVERNING AUTHORITIES IN VIET NAM, ONE IN THE NORTH AND ONE IN THE SOUTH. SINCE THAT TIME, THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM HAS BEEN WIDELY RECOGNIZED AS THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM, HAS TAKEN AN ACTIVE PART IN A NUMBER OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OF THE UN AND IS ALSO, FOR EXAMPLE, A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY UNION. THE "PRG", ON THE OTHER HAND, IS A SOUTHERN BRANCH CREATED BY HANOI AS A POLITICAL FRONT FOR ITS EFFORTS TO TAKE OVER THE SOUTH. ONE CANNOT EQUATE THESE TWO ENTITIES.
- 5. AS FOR THE PARIS AGREEMENT ITSELF, IT NOWHERE PROVIDES FOR THE EXISTENCE OF TWO GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTHVIET NAM, WHICH WOULD IMPLY PARTITION OF SOUTH VIET NAM. ARTICLE 15 OF THE AGREEMENT MAKES CLEAR THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE SOUTH VIET NAM, AND IN THE AGREEMENT IT IS ONLY THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM THAT IS MENTIONED, IN ARTICLE 3(A). TWO OF THE FOUR PARTIES TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT, THE US AND THE GVN, HAVE REPEATEDLY MADE CLEAR THAT THEY DID NOT REGARD THE AGREEMENT AS ESTABLISHING A SECOND GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH VIET NAM. EVEN HANOI DOES NOT EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS WITH THE "PRG".
- 6. MADAME BINH CITES THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM AS PROVIDING AN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS FOR THE "TWO GOVERNMENTS" THESIS. HOWEVER, THE ACT SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT SIGNATURE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE RECOGNITION OF ANY PARTY.
- 7. THOSE WHO ADVOCATE THE EXISTENCE OF TWO GOVERNMENTS IN THE SOUTH ARE THUS EQUATING A GOVERNMENT OF MANY YEARS' STANDING, ACCEPTED BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION OF SOUTH VIETNAM, WITH A SHADOW ENTITY WHICH OWES ANY EXISTENCE IT MAY HAVE TO THE PRESENCE IN SOUTH VIETNAM OF LARGE NUMBERS OF NORTH VIETCONFIDENTIAL

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NAMESE TROOPS.

8. FINALLY, IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY PEACE-LOVING GOVERNMENTS SHOULD GIVE POLITICAL REWARDS AND ENHANCED STATUS TO THE "PRG" WHICH HAS RECENTLY CLOSED THE DOOR ON PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS, COMMITTED LARGE-SCALE AGGRESSION, AND VIOLATED THE PARIS AGREEMENT BY SEIZING AN ENTIRE GVN-HELD PROVINCE AT THE COST OF ENORMOUS SUFFERING TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION.

THESE ACTIONS GIVE DRV/"PRG" APPEALS TO HUMANITARIANISM A
FALSE AND HOLLOW RING.
MARTIN

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Subject: PRG ISSUE AT SECOND SESSION LOW CONFERENCE

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